

East Anglia THREE
Offshore Windfarm

East Anglia THREE

Statement of Common Ground

Rederscentrale (Belgian Producer
Organisation and organisation
representing interests of fishing vessels
owners)

Document Reference – Deadline 2/
SoCG/ Rederscentrale and Applicant

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1 Introduction

1.1 Introduction

1. This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared with Rederscentrale to show where agreement has been reached with East Anglia THREE Limited (EATL) during the pre and post Development Consent Order (DCO) application consultation.
2. This SoCG comprises an agreement log which has been structured to reflect issues and topics of interest to Rederscentrale regarding the East Anglia THREE DCO application (the **Application**).
3. The position with respect to each issue is presented in a tabular form.

1.2 The Development

4. The Application is for development consent to construct and operate up to 172 wind turbine generators and associated infrastructure, with an installed capacity of up to 1,200 MW (the **Project**).
5. The DCO, if made, would be known as the East Anglia THREE Offshore Windfarm Order. It will comprise the following elements:
 - Up to 172 offshore wind turbines and associated foundations, with an installed capacity of up to 1,200 MW;
 - Up to two meteorological masts and foundations;
 - Up to twelve buoys;
 - Up to six offshore electrical stations;
 - Up to one offshore platform housing accommodation facilities;
 - Subsea inter-array cables between the wind turbines and offshore electrical stations;
 - Up to four subsea export cables to transmit electricity from the offshore electrical stations to shore;
 - Up to four interconnector cables between the East Anglia ONE and East Anglia THREE Projects;
 - Scour protection around foundations and on inter-array and export cables as required;
 - Landfall at Bawdsey with onshore transition bays to join the offshore and onshore cables;
 - Up to four onshore underground circuits (each containing up to three cables) pulled through existing ducting to be laid by East Anglia ONE or directly laid, running for approximately 37 km from landfall to the connection point at Bramford, Suffolk, with jointing pits, to transmit electricity to up to two new onshore substations;
 - Up to two onshore substations at Bramford, Suffolk, to connect the offshore windfarm to the National Grid;

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- The permanent and / or temporary compulsory acquisition (if required) of land and / or rights for the proposed Project;
 - Overriding of easements and other rights over or affecting land for the proposed Project;
 - The application and / or disapplication of legislation relevant to the proposed Project including inter alia legislation relating to compulsory purchase; and
 - Such ancillary, incidental and consequential provisions, permits or consents as are necessary and / or convenient.
6. The Application was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate on 18th November 2015 and accepted for examination on 15th December 2015.

1.3 Consultation with Rederscentrale

7. This section summarises the consultation that EATL has had with Rederscentrale; for further information on the consultation process and the outcome of consultations please see the Consultation Report (Document 5.2 of the DCO Application).

1.3.1 Pre-Application

8. EATL (and their consultants Brown and May Marine (BMM)) engaged with Rederscentrale on the Project during the pre-application process, both in terms of informal non-statutory engagement (meeting with Rederscentrale held 5th July 2013) and formal consultation carried out pursuant to section 42 of the Planning Act 2008.
9. During the meeting held with Rederscentrale in July 2013 a presentation was given by BMM outlining key parameters of the Project in relation to Belgian commercial fishing interests. Information regarding levels and types of fishing activity by the Belgian fleet were provided by Rederscentrale.

1.3.2 Post-Application

10. Following telephone and email correspondence with Rederscentrale (17th May, 6th of June 2016 and 24th of June 2016) agreement was reached on certain matters previously raised by Rederscentrale and this is reflected in Section 2 of this SoCG – Agreement Log.
11. A relevant representation made by Rederscentrale is also included in the letter (Appendix 1) appended to this SoCG.

2 Agreement log

12. The topics for areas of agreement between Rederscentrale and EATL are set out below.

2.1 Commercial Fisheries

13. The Project has the potential to impact commercial fishing activity. Chapter 14 of the East Anglia THREE Environmental Statement (ES) (Document 6.1.14 of the DCO Application) provides an assessment of the significance of these impacts. Table 1 below provides areas of common ground that have been reached regarding the findings reported within that chapter.

Table 1. SoCG – Commercial Fisheries

ID	EATL Position	Rederscentrale Position
Environmental Impact Assessment		
1	The commercial fisheries existing environment presented within the ES has been derived from available sources and Rederscentrale agree that this provides an accurate representation of fishing activity by Belgian owned and operated commercial fishing vessels in the vicinity of the Project.	Agreed.
2	The general methodologies used in the assessment are suitable and appropriate.	Agreed.
3	The results of the assessment are suitable and appropriate.	Agreed.
Communication		
4	The level and quality of communication between EATL and representatives of the Belgian fishing industry to date has been appropriate.	Agreed.
5	The aim is to maintain on-going communication between EATL and all relevant sectors of the fishing industry during the pre-construction, construction, operational and decommissioning phases of the Project	Agreed.
Management Measures		
6	A working co-existence plan, as required in the draft DML (DCO Schedules 10 – 15, Part 2,13 (d) (v)) should be established between EATL and the relevant commercial fisheries stakeholders that will address potential issues that may arise during pre-construction, construction, operational and decommissioning activities with the aim of minimising impacts, as far as practicable.	Agreed.
7	A Fisheries Liaison Officer (FLO), with appropriate experience of the relevant sectors of the fishing industry, will be appointed at the start of the pre-	Agreed.

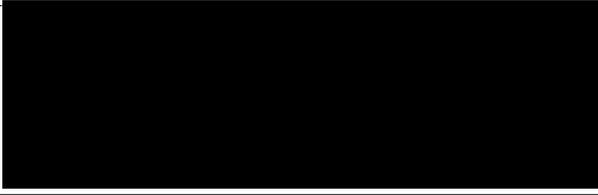
ID	EATL Position	Rederscentrale Position
	construction phase in accordance with the draft DML (DCO Schedules 10 – 15, Condition 13 (d) (iv)) to act to ensure the appropriate liaison with the commercial fisheries industry.	
8	In accordance with the draft DML (DCO Schedules 10 – 15, Condition 13 (d) (v) the FLO will, as part of normal duties, develop a Fisheries Liaison Plan (FLP) to ensure that the relevant fishing fleets are notified of planned and on-going works.	Agreed.
9	The FLP will be developed in consultation with the relevant fisheries stakeholders and in accordance with the appropriate guidance (FLOWW, 2015).	Agreed.
10	EATL will endeavour to minimise the exclusion of fishing during the construction phase where safe and practicable to do so.	Agreed.
11	Fishing vessels will not be able to operate within construction safety zones (as outlined within section 14.6.1.2.3.1 of the ES)). However, EATL will endeavour to minimise the exclusion of fishing during the construction phase where safe and practicable to do so.	Agreed.
12	Cables shall be installed with the objective of minimising as far as reasonably practicable effects on longer term fishing operations. A detailed cable laying plan will be provided which incorporates a burial risk assessment to ascertain suitable burial depths and cable laying techniques in accordance with the draft DML (DCO Schedules 10 – 15, Part 2, Condition 13 (g)(ii)) and with the objective of achieving the maximum level of cable burial.	Agreed.
13	Construction will be in accordance with the parameters assessed in the ES and a construction method statement will be provided for in the draft DML (DCO Schedules 10 – 15, Condition 13 (c)).	Agreed.
14	Construction related seabed debris will be removed in accordance with the requirements of draft DML (DCO Schedules 10 – 15, Part 2, Condition 11 (10)).	Agreed.
15	EATL will request that cable protection manufacturers evaluate the extent to which the various protection options can be safely fished over.	Agreed.
16	EATL will adopt a hierarchical approach to cable protection options in the event that full burial of the entire cable length is not achievable. Under this approach, which will involve consultation with relevant fishing organisations and their representatives, protection options will be assessed using a number of criteria including the aim of selecting protection methods which would cause the least disturbance to fishing practices.	Agreed.

ID	EATL Position	Rederscentrale Position
17	As outlined in the ES, (Chapter 5, Table 5.2 and Chapter 15, Section 15.3) EATL will have a linear turbine arrangement with minimum in row separation of 675m and between row separation of 900m, which will allow fishing to resume in the site post construction.	Agreed.
17	Given the linear arrangement of turbine rows and proposed minimum spacing between turbines, fishing within the site will be able to resume post construction.	Agreed.
18	An emergency safety response plan will be developed which will include rescue procedures for fishing vessels snagging gear on foundations or cables and/or losing power and steerage. This would form part of the Emergency Response Co-operation Plan (ERCoP) required in the draft DML (DCO Schedules 10 – 15, Requirement 14(5)) and would follow oil and gas industry guidelines.	Agreed.
19	A protocol will be established for the safe recovery of any fishing gears caught fast within the operational windfarm site.	Agreed.
20	Suitable arrangements will be established for attributable gear damages and losses in line with standard procedures as outlined in the Fisheries Liaison Offshore Wind and Wet (FLOWW) Best Practice Guidance for Offshore Renewables Developments (2015) ¹ : Recommendations for Fisheries Disruption Settlements and Community Funds.	Agreed.
21	Decommissioning of the windfarm would follow the relevant guidance at the time. Under the Energy Act 2004, EATL is required to compile a decommissioning plan. This plan will be reviewed at intervals during the life of the project and updated based on the latest information on relevant standards, environmental impacts, technology and cost. It is agreed that the windfarm will be decommissioned with the intention of returning the area to pre-construction conditions as far as is possible as such that remaining infrastructure would not pose a safety hazard to fishing activity. This would be verified through appropriate post decommissioning surveys. Remedial action would be taken to remove identified emergent hazards. As recommended within the FLOWW guidelines (2014) EATL will implement similar arrangements for the mitigation of displacement of fishing activities during the decommissioning phase as provided for the installation phase.	Agreed.

¹ Document available at <http://www.thecrownestate.co.uk/energy-minerals-and-infrastructure/offshore-wind-energy/working-with-us/floww/>

ID	EATL Position	Rederscentrale Position
	EATL will establish arrangements to address attributable gear losses associated with infrastructure, in line with oil and gas guidance, during the decommissioning phase if required.	

Signing box: The undersigned agreed to the provisions within this SoCG - Rederscentrale

Signed	
Printed Name	Sander Meyns
Position	Policy Advisor
On behalf of	Rederscentrale
Date	13 th July 2016

Signing box: The undersigned agreed to the provisions within this SoCG – EATL

Signed	
Printed Name	Keith Morrison
Position	East Anglia THREE Senior Project Manager
On behalf of	East Anglia THREE Limited (EATL)
Date	25/07/2016

Appendix 1 Relevant Representation

Received **08 April 2016**

From **Rederscentrale (Rederscentrale)**

Representation

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Rederscentrale is a recognised fish producer organisation in Belgian fisheries and a recognised professional organisation representing the interests of Belgian ship-owners. Rederscentrale has an interest in all application elements outside the UK's 12NM limit. We have significant activity in the East Anglia area, so we would like to register ourselves as an interested party.

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